

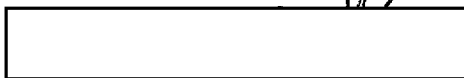
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3 March 1977

NOTE FOR: A/DCI

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FROM:



Admiral Turner passes the attached on
for your information to let you know which
members of the Press have been in corres-
pondence with him.

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FOR
DCI

Don't Trust Intelligence Without Objectivity

As the United States learned at Pearl Harbor and the French at Dienbienphu, foreign intelligence is a matter not wisely entrusted to people with preconceived notions. Times change, and a nation's assumptions about security must change with them.

The irony of Theodore Sorensen's rejection as CIA chief was that it resulted from no particular preconception of his. Quite the contrary; it was his *lack* of demonstrated commitment to one current theory of national defense—the one that military growth must take precedence over national economic health—that undid Sorensen before he could even be heard on the subject.

There is, unfortunately, an equal irony

to the second choice for CIA chief announced yesterday by President Carter.

Admiral Stansfield Turner, a Rhodes scholar as well as an Annapolis graduate, may possess all the intellectual equipment and command experience required to direct the nation's intelligence apparatus. But as a career military officer running an agency supposed to be independent of military control, he must prove he possesses the very objectivity that seemed in some circles to disqualify Sorensen for the job.

Turner's Navy rank will be heavy baggage to carry when the hard judgments are made on the level of Soviet defense spending. And inevitably he will have to face questions whether it was his own tal-

ent that motivated the appointment, or the president's desire to offset the criticism first of Sorensen and now of Paul Warnke, his nominee for disarmament negotiator.

The first CIA director, the late General Walter Bedell Smith, demonstrated that a military background need not prevent a man from being a dedicated, broad-gauge public servant. But neither is it an automatic qualification—not in an age when economics, resources and technology influence the strategic balance at least as much as weaponry and manpower. Turner's confirmation hearings should bore in to make sure he understands the new demands on foreign intelligence as well as the old.

On the Payroll, Job or No Job

Victor Scutari is employed by the Town of Hempstead in a job for which he's unqualified.

He admits that.

He admits he spends most of his days reading, chatting, jumping rope for exercise and listening to a tape recorder. He's appealing to the town grievance board to be allowed to do some work for his \$19,867-a-year salary.

Scutari used to be a public relations officer for the City of Long Beach. After his party was voted out of office there, obliging Republicans in the Town of Hempstead put him to work in 1973 as an assistant budget supervisor. But, he claims, since he refused to donate one per cent of his annual salary to the town GOP committee, he has been treated as an invisible man. For the past 14 months, he says, he has been given no work to do.

After his complaint was publicized, the town's presiding supervisor, Francis Purcell, said Scutari would be fired if he didn't quit his job. Purcell denied that Scutari has been harassed, citing as proof the \$5,000 in raises Scutari has received since he got on the town payroll.

The supervisor undoubtedly wishes Scutari were really invisible. Purcell is seeking the GOP nomination for county executive, and it puts him in a rather embarrassing position to argue that \$5,000 in raises to an unqualified man is proof that the man hasn't been harassed.

But Purcell is not alone; thousands of taxpayers are embarrassed too. Their embarrassment is financial. They've been paying for a patronage system that takes care of displaced Republicans whether they work or not.



Can Sadat Deliver Peace?

Israelis have two overriding worries in dealing with the Arab world's designated dove, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat:

- They can't be sure he really intends to honor any commitment he might make to live in peace with Israel.
- Even if his intentions are honorable, there's no certainty that Egypt will allow him to carry them out.

Evidently Sadat was badly shaken by the riots that erupted last month when his government tried to reduce subsidies on such staples as rice, sugar, cigarettes and kerosene. Last week he signed a decree that would impose life sentences for such "crimes" as going on strike, destroying property or belonging to an unauthorized political organization.

Egypt will hold a plebiscite Thursday on these sweeping restrictions. Presumably Sadat wouldn't risk that if there was a chance he might lose; if the vote goes

his way he'll no doubt claim a mandate for his policies, foreign as well as economic.

Still, the riots were a sobering reminder that Sadat's government is subject to the same strains that beset the more repressive regimes of Syria's President Hafez Assad and Jordan's King Hussein. Liberal as it is by most Arab standards, it remains in power on the sufferance of the army—and military men are apt to grow restive when peace breaks out. Apart from that, authoritarian governments often find it convenient to blame their shortcomings on external foes.

The Israelis have always been aware of the risks they face in dealing with Sadat. An important task of Israeli and American diplomacy now is to test his intentions as fully as possible without destroying the possibility that he might be able to carry them out.

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no acknowledgment expected